

REMARKS

I. Introduction

With the cancellation herein without prejudice of claim 4 and the addition of new claims 7 to 11, claims 1 to 3 and 5 to 11 are pending in the present application. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicant notes with appreciation the acknowledgment of the claim for foreign priority and the indication that all certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for considering the previously filed Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 paper and cited references.

II. Objection to the Specification

As regards the objection to the Specification, while Applicants do not agree with the merits of this objection, to facilitate prosecution, the Specification has been amended herein to change "a torsion spring as a pressure element, e.g., a leaf spring" to --a torsion spring or a leaf spring 1 as a pressure element--. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that the foregoing amendment obviates the present objection, and withdrawal of this objection is therefore respectfully requested.

III. Rejection of Claims 1 to 6 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1 to 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as indefinite. While Applicants do not agree with the merits of this rejection, to facilitate prosecution, claim 4 has been canceled herein without prejudice. Furthermore, claim 1 has been amended herein without prejudice to change "to produce bending" to --to produce bending of the torsion spring--. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present rejection has been obviated, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter contained in claims 1 to 6. As indicated above, claim 4 has been canceled herein without prejudice, thereby rendering moot the rejection raised under 35 U.S.C. § 112. In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 to 3, 5 and 6 are in condition for immediate allowance.

V. New Claims 7 to 11

New claims 7 to 11 have been added herein. It is respectfully submitted that new claims 7 to 11 add no new matter and are fully supported by the present application, including the Specification. It is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons that claims 1 to 6 were indicated to include allowable subject matter.

VI. Conclusion

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

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By: Richard L. Mayer

Richard L. Mayer
Reg. No. 22,490

One Broadway
New York, New York 10004
(212) 425-7200

CUSTOMER NO. 26646